(b) whether any steps are being taken to give clearance for 10.5 Megawatt operation; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Fast Breeder Test Reactor at Kalpakkam has completed the 8 MWt. operation successfully.

(b) and (c) The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board has given clearance in November 1993 for operation of the reactor at 10.5 MWt.

Power Generation Through Co-Generation Scheme

*219. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal for co-generation as an additional source for industries like Sugar, etc. where steam is used in large quantities for processing;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the co-generation potential for producing power in the industry;

(d) what hurdles Government anticipate in achieving this objective; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to romove these hurdles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has identified biomass based co-gennration, particularly in the sugar industry, as a thrust area for generation of power. A capacity addition of upto 300 MW is envisaged during the Eighth Plan period.

(c) The Task Force constituted by the Ministry has estimated a potential of about 3500 MW surplus power generation based on co-generation in the sugar industry.

(d) The major hurdles could be the lack of suitable policies and incentives for grid inter-connection and acceptance of the surplus power on the State grids, and the paucity of surplus financial resources with the sugar industry for carrying out the necessary modifications in the plant and equipment.

(e) A National Programme is proposed to be launched by the Ministry to promote bagasse based co-generation. The possibility of obtaining support from the Asian Development Bank is also being explored. In addition, the Ministry has requested the State Governments to introduce suitable fiscal and promotional incentives to encourage generation of power through non-conventional energy sources, including biomass based co-generation.

Recession in India's aviation industry

*220. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a continued recession in India's aviation industry; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure the viability of Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) During 1989-90 and 1990-91, the domestic traffic declined. It picked up in 1991-92, but again declined in 1992-93. In the current year, traffic is showing signs of recovery, but is still low. The slow growth in traffic is adversely affecting viability of the air transport industry including Indian Airlines. Government are considering various proposals to provide relief. The proposals include reduction in the price of Aviation

Turbine Fuel, relief in Inland Air Travel Tax and subsidy for operating on uneconomic routes.

प्रधानमंत्री को संसद सदस्यों से प्राप्त पत्र

1964. **श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ मीम अफजल** : क्या **प्रधानमंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1 अप्रैल, 1990 से 31 मार्च 1993 तक सांसदों द्वारा प्रधानमंत्री को कितने पत्र लिखे गए और उनका वर्षवार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) उनमें से कितने पत्रों की पावती भेजी गई;

(ग) कितने पत्रों के अंतिम उत्तर भेजे गए; और

(घ) मंत्रालय द्वारा क्रमशः सकारात्मक और नकारात्मक उत्तरों वाले भेजे गये अंतिम पत्रों के पृथक-पृथक आंकड़े क्या हैं?

प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग तथा अंतरिक्ष विभाग में राज्यमंत्री तथा विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी) : (क) 1 अप्रैल, 1990 से 31 मार्च, 1993 तक संसद सदस्यों से प्रधानमंत्री को 28019 पत्र प्राप्त हुए हैं जिनका वर्षवार ब्यौरा निम्न प्रकार है :

1.4.90 से 31.3.91 तक 7683

1.4.91 से 31.3.92 तक 9714

1.4.92 से 31.3.93 तक 10622

(ख) से (घ) संसद सदस्यों से प्राप्त अधिकांश पत्रों की पावती प्रधानमंत्री द्वारा भेजी गई थी। यद्यपि अधिकांश पत्रों पर कार्रवाई संबंधित मंत्रालयों/विभागों द्वारा की जानी अपेक्षित होती है, फिर भी, कुछ ऐसे पत्र होते हैं जिन पर कार्रवाई प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय द्वारा की जानी होती है। कुछ ऐसे पत्र भी होते हैं जिन पर कोई विशिष्ट कार्रवाई करनी अपेक्षित नहीं होती है। प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय द्वारा कार्रवाई किए जाने हेतु कुल 7133 पत्र थे, जिनमें से 5640 पत्रों के अन्तिम उत्तर भेजे गए। इनमें 4119 पत्रों के सकारात्मक और 1521 पत्रों के नकारात्मक उत्तर थे। कार्रवाई योग्य अन्य पत्रों को संबंधित मंत्रालयों/विभागों को इन पत्रों में उठाए गए मुद्दों पर विचार करने तथा संसद सदस्यों को समुचित उत्तर देने के लिए भेज दिया गया। ऐसे मामलों का ब्यौरा संबंधित मंत्रालयों/विभागों के पास उपलब्ध है।

Polferage of Radioactive Materials from Atomic Power Plants

1865. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the IAEA has poined out various hazards and lack of safety commitment in our Atomic Energy Plants ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the employees frequently tamper with or bring out hazardous radioative materials from plants; and

(c) if so, what measures are proposed to enhance the safety and also guard against disgruntled employees from bringing radioactive material or parts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The security and surveillance measures in force in the atomic power plants are adequate to ensure safety and to guard against disgruntled employees bringing out radioactive materials or parts. Periodic reviews are also carried out to ensure physical protection of radioactive materials/parts.